FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION



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NEWS RELEASE

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COMMISSION APPROVES NEPOOL'S REVISED MARKET RULES

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission today conditionally approved the New England Power Pool's (NEPOOL) revised market rules, moving the pool's restructuring another step forward.

"I am pleased that we act today on NEPOOL's proposal which further refines its market operations as it approaches its planned May 1, 1999 start-up date", Chairman James J. Hoecker said. "NEPOOL's market rules should result in more efficient markets in New England."

The Commission earlier conditionally approved NEPOOL's transmission tariff and Independent System Operator (ISO) rules. In a December 1998 order, the Commission conditionally approved NEPOOL's market rules.

In today's order, the Commission conditionally accepted revisions to NEPOOL's earlier filing. They involve certain procedures and charges, reflective of a bid-based market.

NEPOOL consists of more than 130 entities. Its region includes Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

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